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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

State Department review
completed

Memorandum



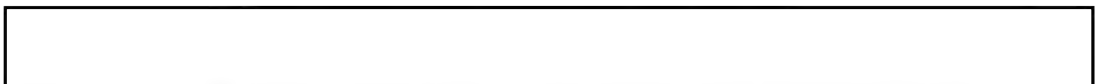
**THE CRISIS
USSR/CUBA**

Information as of 0600

5 November 1962

**PREPARED FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL**

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5 November 1962

THE SITUATION IN CUBA

Aerial photography [REDACTED] shows that four missile transporters, presumably with missiles, have arrived at the port of Mariel and are standing close by the three Soviet dry cargo vessels which had previously been observed tied up there.

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Seventeen missile erectors, 11 of them with stands, were also observed at Mariel in the vicinity of another Soviet ship which is docked at the eastern end of the harbor.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Trucks were observed shuttling along the road linking the Guanajay IRBM sites and Mariel, with trucks loaded with crates moving toward the port and empty trucks going in the opposite direction. Several Soviet trucks carrying heavy loads were seen bogged down in a field in this area, and the general impression was that the activity is being carried out in hurry and confusion.

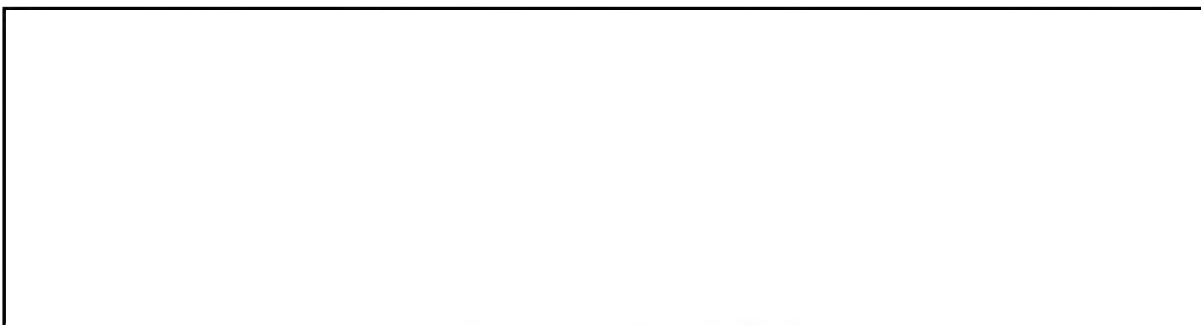
A number of special transport vehicles and other equipment were seen near dockside in Mariel, where a small amount had been seen one day earlier.

A 20-truck convoy carrying between 80 and 100 Soviet personnel was seen moving toward Havana from the east on [REDACTED]. The men carried duffel bags and field equipment, and the convoy included two kitchen trucks.

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3 A fourth delivery of IL-28 (Beagle) jet light bombers apparently was made to Cuba about 20 October, just prior to the announcement of the quarantine. This raises the number of IL-28s in Cuba to at least 37 and possibly 41.



LATIN AMERICAN DEVELOPMENTS

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Briceno is in Washington where he plans to address the OAS on Monday, 5 November, on the Cuban situation and its relation to "Cuban-inspired subversion and sabotage" in Venezuela. He has brought "proof" with him but would like more if the US can supply it.

4 On 3 November the Argentine Chargé in Mexico City informed our Ambassador that he had been assured that Mexico will support the Argentine resolution to set up OAS command of forces contributed to enforcement of measures in the Cuban situation. There are some indications that Mexico may break relations with Cuba, a step which would seem called for if endorsement of such a command is forthcoming.

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BLOC-CUBA

The TASS announcement of the 4 November meeting between Mikoyan and Cuban leaders gave no details on the matters discussed or any indication of the duration of Mikoyan's stay in Cuba. This suggests that agreement is yet to be reached on matters of inspection in Cuba and the verification of the removal of Soviet missiles.

5 Soviet propaganda suggests that the Soviets intend to delay as much as possible on the issue of UN inspection and verification, hoping that the issue will lose its force and immediacy as the missile sites are dismantled and it appears that the missiles are being shipped home.

Radio Moscow continues to make vague references to Soviet support of Castro and Cuba and specifically denies that any rift exists between the USSR and Cuba. Soviet propaganda again seeks to obtain a broader US commitment not to invade Cuba and repeats claims that it is time for the US to fulfill its part of the bargain with the USSR by ending the quarantine and aerial surveillance of Cuba. In discussing the Cuban settlement, Moscow warns that the West's tactics with regard to Cuba will not be applicable to a solution of the Berlin problem.

6 Communist China continues to give vociferous support to Castro and his five demands. At the same time Peking's criticism of Soviet Cuban policy is becoming sharper; a People's Daily editorial implies that the USSR adopted an "appeasement policy" toward the US. Deriding the "Munich scheme against the Cuban people," People's Daily declares that support of Castro's five demands is "the obligatory, internationalist duty of the people of all socialist countries." Numerous mass rallies in support of Cuba have taken place in China, and Chou en-Lai has publicly reaffirmed Chinese solidarity with Castro and the Cuban people.

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Sixteen Soviet Bloc ships are currently en route to Cuba. They include seven Soviet dry cargo ships, seven Soviet tankers, and two satellite dry cargo ships. The only vessel approaching the quarantine line is the Soviet dry cargo ship E. PUGACHEV which passed through the Panama Canal on 3 November at which time she was inspected by US authorities.

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